

AMENDMENTS**In the Specification:**

Page 1, please amend the paragraph under the heading "REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS" as follows.

This application is a division of Serial No. 10/290,456, filed November 8, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,740,401, issued May 25, 2004 ~~currently pending~~.

Page 56, please insert the following amended Table.

Table 1 (continued)

		Ex. 7	Ex. 8	Ex. 9	Ex. 10	Ex. 11	Ex. 12
polymer	-	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA	PLA
melting point	°C	172	172	172	172	172	172
refractive index	-	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
cross sectional shape	-	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)
heteromorphic level (D/d)	-	3.3	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
(h/L)x100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hollow ratio	%	-	-	-	-	-	-
thickness	μm	-	-	-	-	-	-
total fineness	dtex	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
single yarn fineness	dtex	21	21	21	21	21	21
crimp elongation rate after processed with boiling water	%	7.4	8.8	9.7	7.0	10.2	8.2
breaking strength	cN/dtex	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.2
retention of breaking strength	%	93	91	86	65	84	94
boiling water shrinkage	%	7.6	9.5	9.2	8.6	6.3	8.6
coloring agent	-	included	included	-	-	-	-
coloring agent content	%	0.08	1.5	-	-	-	-
yarn-metal kinetic friction coeff.	-	0.37	0.38	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.37
condition of dissolving oil solution	-	nonaqueous	nonaqueous	nonaqueous	aqueous	nonaqueous	nonaqueous
amount of adhered oil sol.	%	0.60	0.60	0.08	0.66	0.70	0.60
drawing rate: first step/ second step/ total	-	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.5/ 1.25
crimping manner	-	continuous	continuous	continuous	continuous	continuous	continuous
heated fluid for crimping	-	heated air	heated air	heated air	heated air	Super-heated steam	heated air
glass transition temp.	°C	57	57	57	57	57	57
pre-heat temperature before drawing	°C	75	75	75	75	75	75
spinning ability	-	⊙	○	△	⊙	⊖	△
Tufting ability	-	⊙	○	△	⊙	⊖	⊖

luster	-	⊙	⊙	○	⊙	⊙	Δ
texture	-	○	○	Δ	○	⊙	⊙
bulkiness	-	○	○	○	○	⊙	⊙
compression resistance	-	○	Δ	Δ	Δ	⊙	Δ
biodegradability	-	○	○	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙

Page 57, please insert the following amended Table.

Table 1 (continued)

		Ex. 11 [[13]]	Comparative Ex. 1	Comparative Ex. 2	Comparative Ex. 3	Comparative Ex. 4	Comparative Ex. 5 [[11]]	Comparative Ex. 6 [[12]]
polymer	-	PLA	PLA	PLA	PET	nylon	PLA	PLA
melting point	°C	172	172	172	260	220	172	172
refractive index	-	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.56	1.53	1.45	1.45
cross sectional shape	-	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)	Y(tri-phyllous)
heteromorphic level (D/d)	-	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.0	3.3	3.2	3.2
(h/L)x100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hollow ratio	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
thickness	μm	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
total fineness	dtex	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
single yarn fineness	dtex	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
crimp elongation rate after processed with boiling water	%	9.5	1.8	15.0	5.0	19.0	10.2	8.2
breaking strength	cN/dtex	1.5	2.1	0.7	4.0	2.8	1.2	1.2
retention of breaking strength	%	95	96	90	95	98	84	94
boiling water shrinkage	%	5.6	9.3	4.4	5.0	5.2	6.3	8.6
coloring agent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
coloring agent content	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
yarn-metal kinetic friction coeff.	-	0.36	0.36	0.38	0.39	0.36	0.36	0.37
condition of dissolving oil solution	-	nonaqueous	nonaqueous	nonaqueous	Aqueous	aqueous	nonaqueous	nonaqueous
amount of adhered oil sol.	%	0.56	0.80	0.70	0.80	0.60	0.70	0.60
drawing rate: first step/ second step/ total	-	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	3.0/ ~3.0	2.8/ 1.25/3.5	2.0/ 1.25/2.5	2.5/ ~2.5
crimping manner	-	discontinuous	continuous	continuous	Continuous	continuous	continuous	continuous
heated fluid for crimping	-	heated air	heated air	heated air	heated air	heated air	Super-heated steam	heated air
glass transition temp.	°C	57	57	57	70	45	57	57
pre-heat temperature before drawing	°C	75	75	75	100	50	75	75
spinning ability	-	⊙	○	○	⊙	⊙	○	Δ
Tufting ability	-	⊙	○	×	○	⊙	⊙	○
luster	-	⊙	⊙	⊙	Δ	×	⊙	Δ
texture	-	○	×	○	Δ	⊙	○	○
bulkiness	-	○	×	⊙	○	⊙	○	○

compression resistance	-	○	○	×	○	⊙	○	△
biodegradability	-	Ex. 13	Comparative Ex. 1	Comparative Ex. 2	Comparative Ex. 3	Comparative Ex. 4	⊙	⊙

Pages 67-69, please delete sub-title "Example 11", and paragraphs [0168], [0169], sub-title "Example 12", and paragraphs [0170] and [0171] and insert them on page 80 as follows:

Comparative Example 5 [[11]]

[0204.1] A similar method to Example 1 except that a superheated steam having a pressure of 0.78 MPa (8.0 kgf/cm.sup.2) and a temperature of 190.degree. C. was employed for the heated fluid was carried out to obtain a polylactic acid crimped yarn having: a total fineness of 2,000 decitex; number of single yarns of 96; a single yarn fineness of 21 decitex; a crimp elongation rate after being processed with boiling water of 10.2%; a boiling water shrinkage of 6.3%; a breaking strength of 1.2 cN/decitex; a retention of the breaking strength of 84%; an amount of the adhered oil solution of 0.70%; a yarn-metal kinetic friction coefficient of 0.36; triphyllous ("Y"-shaped) cross sectional shape, a heteromorphic level of 3.2; and number of entangling of 10/m.

[0204.2] Then a carpet was obtained by a similar method to Example 1, and the obtained carpet was evaluated on the tufting ability, the luster, the texture, the bulkiness, the compression resistance and the biodegradability. The results of the evaluation of the carpet and the yarn quality of the aforementioned crimped yarn and so on were shown in Table 1.

Comparative Example 6 [[12]]

[0204.3] The thread pre-heated at the second take-off roll was drawn as a first-step drawing between the second take-off roll and the first drawing roll having a surface speed of 2,000 m/min. and a temperature of 80.degree. C., and thereafter the thread was crimped by using the heated fluid

crimping machine. That is, a similar method to Example 1 except that the drawing process was a single-step process by carrying out the first drawing step of 2.5 times-drawing was carried out to obtain a polylactic acid crimped yarn having: a total fineness of 2,000 decitex; number of single yarns of 96; a single yarn fineness of 21 decitex; a crimp elongation rate after being processed with boiling water of 8.2%; a boiling water shrinkage of 8.6%; a breaking strength of 1.2 cN/dectex; a retention of the breaking strength of 94%; an amount of the adhered oil solution of 0.60%; a yarn-metal kinetic friction coefficient of 0.37; triphyllous ("Y"-shaped) cross sectional shape, a heteromorphic level of 3.2; and number of entangling of 10/m.

[0204.4] Then a carpet was obtained by a similar method to Example 1, and the obtained carpet was evaluated on the tufting ability, the luster, the texture, the bulkiness, the compression resistance and the biodegradability. The results of the evaluation of the carpet and the yarn quality of the aforementioned crimped yarn and so on were shown in Table 1.

Page 69, amend the subtitle at line 8 as follows:

Example 11 [[13]]